

Executive Proclamation State of South Dakota Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Henry Standing Bear, a Chief of the Oglala Sioux Indian Tribe, watched the white man sculpt Mount Rushmore into the sacred granite of a Paha Sapa mountain as a tribute and lasting memorial to the civilization of the White race; and,

WHEREAS, Henry Standing Bear in 1939 wrote to a Boston-born Polish sculptor who had just won The First Sculptural Award at The New York World's Fair for his bust of Paderewski, and asked that young sculptor to carve an heroic equestrian statue of the great Sioux, Crazy Horse, into the sacred granite of a Paha Sapa mountain as a tribute and lasting memorial to the civilization of the Red race; and,

WHEREAS, The young sculptor, named Korczak Ziolkowski, was moved by the request and inspired by the truth, beauty and justice of the mission accepted the commission, and took as his mandate the eloquent request of Chief Standing Bear to carve a statue that would depict the story of Indian Civilization at its zenith and not "left at the end of the trail which depicts the Indian in despair"; and,

WHEREAS, By Korczak Ziolkowski's epic work, the story of the American Indian in the full flower of his civilization shall never pass from the earth, but will belong forever to the ages; and,

WHEREAS, To allay Standing Bear's concern that the Indian would remember not at all or as a broken, defeated man, this noble, classical, epic statue will say to generations of ages yet to come, "I was here, on this land, and I was a magnificent man"; and,

WHEREAS, Korczak Ziolkowski carved the heritage of the Indian race upon the face of eternity, no, too, shall not pass from human experience, and as long as there is one human being left to cast his eyes upon "this magnificent man," the artistic compact will be realized; this sculpture will say again and again, to all who behold it, "I was here, on this land, and I was a magnificent man"; and,

WHEREAS, I shall not pass as Governor & their honoring the man who in this colossal effort gave all, is left to a & of humanity forever; this I cannot do; it would be too large a responsibility; and,

WHEREAS, To commemorate my debt to Korczak Ziolkowski, I have caused a medallion to be cast, depicting him to the highest esteem we have for him;

Now, therefore, I, WILLIAM F. HARVEY, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim:

APRIL 24, 1944

the said recipient into priority, at The Governor's Award for Capital Achievement in the Arts in order to confer the just recognition to a greater artist of our age.

WILLIAM F. HARVEY,
Governor of the State of South Dakota,
The State of South Dakota,
Pierre, the Capital City,
April 24, 1944.

WILLIAM F. HARVEY, GOVERNOR

One Hundred

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